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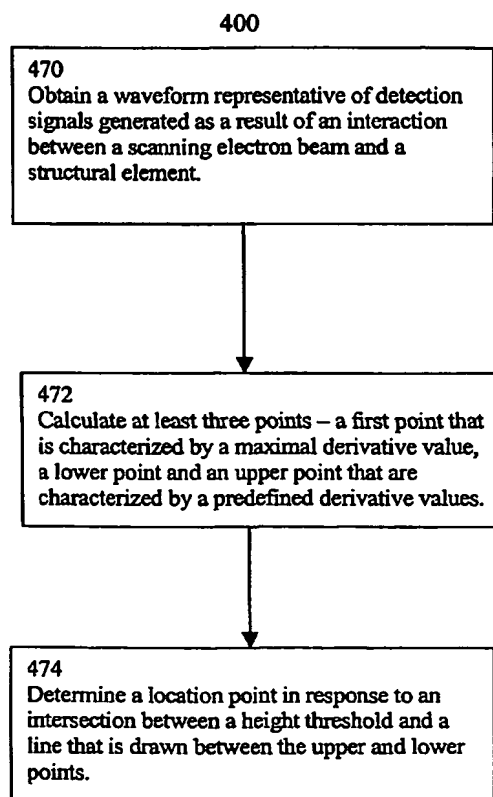
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(54) Title: A SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR DETERMINING A CROSS SECTIONAL FEATURE OF A STRUCTURAL ELEMENT USING A REFERENCE STRUCTURAL ELEMENT



(57) Abstract: A system and method for determining a cross sectional feature of a measured structural element having a sub-micron cross section, the cross section is defined by an intermediate section that is located between a first and a second traverse sections. The method starts by a first step of scanning, at a first tilt state, a first portion of a reference structural element and at least the first traverse section of the measured structural element, to determine a first relationship between the reference structural element and the first traverse section. The first step is followed by a second step of scanning, at a second tilt state, a second portion of a reference structural element and at least the second traverse section of the measured structural element, to determine a second relationship between the reference structural element and the second traverse section. The method ends by a third step of determining a cross sectional feature of the measured structural element in response to the first and second relationships.

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